Brand Names of Products for Export

6830. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to develop its own brand names of the products which are exported in large quantities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b). To population various brands of Indian spices and to project "Indianness" and "Quality" the Spice Board has launched a "Brands Promotion Scheme".

As regards raw coffee exports, the Coffee Board had made an attempt to brand the raw coffee exports with the introduction of a new grade 'Mysore Nuggets EB'.

In the case of tea, logo campaigns of Assam and Darjeeling teas are being carried out in several countries.

Dearness Allowance to Central Government Employees.

6831. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government employees who were drawing the basic pay less than Rs. 3,500/- had been granted Dearness Allowance at the rate of 9 percent from July 1, 1991;

(b) whether the said increase in Dearness Allowance is allowed to be drawn by the employees concerned when their pay is raised subsequently above Rs. 3,500/- as a result of promotion or earning of increment;

(c) if not, whether the Government are considering to allow such employees to draw the Dearness Allowance at the same rate since they were eligible for the same at the time of sanction; and

(d) the steps taken for payment of installment of Dearness Allowance due to the Central Government employees w. e. f. January 1 1992?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) In fact, 9% was the increase in the Dearness Allowance allowed from 1.7.91 in respect of employees drawing basic pay upto Rs. 3500/- per month and not the amount of Dearness Allowance as such. Further, orders granting additional instalments of Dearnes allowance due from 1.7.91 in respect of employees drawing basic pay above Rs. 3500/– per month and from 1.1.92 in respect of all Central Government employees have since been issued.

(b) to (d). Do not arise, in view of (a) above.

Amendment to Motor Vehicles Act, 1988

6832. SHRI P. C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the provisions in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 debars the claimants to file claims after the expiry of twelve month of the accident;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any representations to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 in this regard; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT